



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WIFE, SON INDICTED FOR MISLEADING OFFICER, LYING TO GRAND JURY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the wife and son of a defendant charged in a separate federal indictment were indicted by a federal grand jury today, in separate cases, of misleading law enforcement officers and providing false information to a federal grand jury.

* **Candi L. Raifsnider**, 42, of Joplin, Mo., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. **Raifsnider** is the wife of Edward Raifsnider, who has been indicted for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Today's indictment alleges that **Raifsnider** engaged in misleading conduct toward a Missouri State Highway Patrol officer on Jan. 11, 2003, by confirming Edward Raifsnider's false identity as Larry E. Killion and by confirming that she was the fiancé of Larry E. Killion. The indictment alleges that this was done with the intent to prevent the communication to a law enforcement officer of information relating to the possible commission of a federal firearms offense and relating to a violation of supervised release in a separate case by Edward Raifsnider.

* **Byron W. Thomas**, 20, of Ft. Benning, Ga., was charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield. **Thomas** is the son of Edward Raifsnider.

Today's indictment alleges that **Thomas** made a declaration in a deposition on June 16, 2005, that was inconsistent with his earlier testimony before a federal grand jury on Sept. 15, 2004. The indictment alleges that the two statements are inconsistent to the degree that one of them is necessarily false.

According to today's indictment, Edward Raifsnider used the name Larry E. Killion as an alias identity in the purchase of a Savage Arms .22-caliber rifle. **Thomas** allegedly testified under oath on Sept. 15, 2004, that he purchased the rifle himself from a Wal-Mart store in

Oklahoma, and that he was not aware that his father was using the name Larry Killion as an alias. **Thomas** allegedly testified under oath on June 16, 2005, that his father filled out the paperwork to purchase the rifle and that he knew his father was a fugitive who used the name Larry Killion as an alias.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictments are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

These cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard E. Monroe. They were investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the U.S. Marshal Service, and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow